

Service Date: May 3, 2002

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER OF CLARK FORK)	UTILITY DIVISION
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.,)	
Application for Approval of Non-Rate)	DOCKET NO. D2001.7.98
Amendments to Access Tariffs)	ORDER NO. 6405a

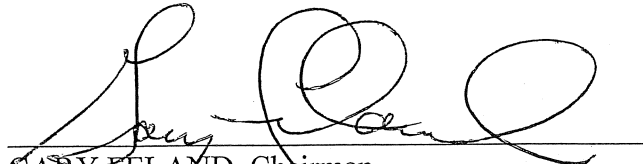
PROTECTIVE ORDER


On April 8, 2002, Clark Fork Telecommunications, Inc. (CFT) filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) a Request for Protective Order to govern certain information expected to be filed in the above-entitled proceeding. CFT requests protection of information relating to network design, access customers, traffic volume, financials, and business arrangements. CFT argues that the identified information is trade secret in accordance with § 30-14-402, MCA.

The PSC determines that the identified information could be confidential and subject to protection from public disclosure pursuant to § 69-3-105, MCA. Therefore, the PSC grants CFT's request and hereby orders that information submitted in accordance with this Order be treated as "confidential information" under the terms of this Order and PSC protective order rules, ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030.

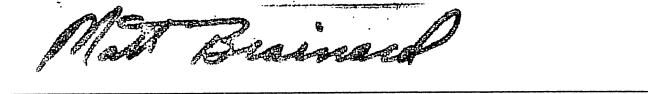
Done and dated this 30th day of April, 2002, by a vote of 5-0.

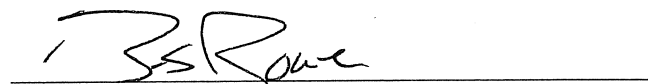
BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


GARY FELAND, Chairman

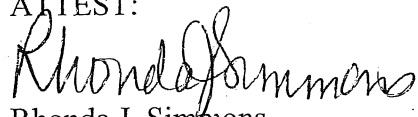

JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman


BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner


MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner


BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: There is no reconsideration of the granting of a protective order. There is a procedure to challenge the provider's claim of confidentiality. See ARM 38.2.5008.